

**STATEMENT OF
COMMISSIONER MEREDITH ATTWELL BAKER**

Re: *Reliability and Continuity of Communications Networks, Including Broadband Technologies (PS Docket No. 11-60); Effects on Broadband Communications Networks for Damage or Failure of Network Equipment of Severe Overload (PS Docket No. 10-92); Independent Panel Reviewing the Impact of Hurricane Katrina on Communications Networks (EB Docket No. 06-119)*

The American people deserve the highest degree of continuity, reliability, and resiliency in their communications networks. All segments of our society, from national security to consumer welfare, increasingly depend on them. This is particularly true in the event of a disaster, regardless of whether it is natural or man-made. Exploring the capabilities and deficiencies of our networks is critical to determining any improvements needed to them. The inquiry we launch today will help us understand how and if we can use our authority to promote these improvements as our Nation's technologies and systems continue to evolve. I look forward to learning more as we work together to analyze this essential infrastructure.